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The Will Power; its Range in Action. J. MILNER FOTHERGILL, M. D. James Pott & Co., New York. 184 pp.

"This is not a metaphysical inquiry," says the author, "but a practical book, which it is hoped will be found useful by many, especially those entering the battle of life." The will is treated in relation to inherited character, to self-culture, to the mastery of men, and to disease. Illustrations are largely drawn from English history and literature, frequently from George Eliot. The book ought not to be without interest to those for whom it was written, and perhaps not without effect in encouraging determination; but it has about as little to recommend it to the psychologist (for whom indeed it was not intended) as for the metaphysician. A book might be written on nearly the same lines, equally neglectful of speculation and even more practical, bringing in the contributions of physiology and more accurate analysis, which would pass muster psychologically, and, at the same time, be far more impressive by reason of the freshness and directness of its suggestions.

Cerebriology and the possible something in Phrenology. S. V. CLEVENGER, M. D. Am. Naturalist, July, 1888.

Of all the bastard sciences, there is none that finds more ready scorn and that it takes so much courage to look at seriously as phrenology. Dr. Clevenger has, somewhat against his inclinations, taken such a look, and sees some points of coincidence between modern cerebral localization and the skull localization of the phrenologists. On the basis of the generally conceded motor and sensory areas, and a speculative location of the regulative and associative functions in the remaining "blank-spaces," he finds some plausibility in locating firmness, self-esteem, and continuity (cerebral control of the body) over the motor centres for the arms and legs; cautiousness, conscientiousness, approbateness (of an inhibitory nature), over the rearward blank-spaces; benevolence, hope, ideality, constructiveness (inhibitory-coordinating), forward of the motor and rearward of the intellectual area; amativeness (animal trait), over the occipital ridge and mastoid process, depending on the development of the neck muscles; and so on with three or four other groups of faculties. Whatever fails of justification in some such manner is returned again to limbo.

Comparative Physiology and Psychology. S. V. CLEVENGER, M. D. pp. 247. Chicago, 1885; A. C. McClurg & Co.

This moderate-sized volume attempts to embody with some system, as introductory to a larger work contemplated, the various ideas advanced by the author in papers published in different periodicals. The scope is broad; such questions are discussed as the primitive evolution of life and mind, the physiology of protoplasm, the evolution of organs, the significance of embryonic development, alternation of generations, heredity, adaptation, and allied subjects. Many facts are massed together without further attempt to show their bearings. There is a lack of classification of the ideas that leads to confusion, and many of the sentences are so loaded with abstruse terms (increasing the obscurity due in part to the condensed form of presentation) that a satisfactory synopsis for a brief review is impossible. Two or three chapters, however, like that on the morphology

of the brain and that on the expression of the emotions, are tolerably clear.

The author is indebted in large measure to Bain, Spencer, and Darwin, but is ultra-radical in his physical conceptions of life, and he does not conceal his antagonism towards the old-school psychologists. The great problems that engage the attention of investigators are answered with naïve certitude, and the author's speculations as to the mode of evolution of organs are as fanciful as those of Lamarck and involve principles even more mechanical. There are, however, a number of excellent similes and many highly suggestive thoughts which make the work worth reading to one familiar with the problems discussed. As serving to give the novice a notion of physiological psychology, we think it misleading; and it will rather alienate than instruct members of the metaphysical school. The mechanical theories that attempt to explain nerve physiology are too artificial, and generally assume properties for the atoms that involve the very points contended for by the metaphysicians. In referring physiological processes in nerves to physics and chemistry, we on the one hand do not detract from the interiority of mind, nor do we on the other hand explain the *modus operandi* of these forces. The metaphysician errs in denying the intimate relations between physics, chemistry and psychology; the radical errs in thinking the mysteries of life are reduced to simple mechanics.

J. N.